

STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BOARD OF CRIME CONTROL

3075 N Montana Ave - PO Box 201408 - Helena, MT 59620-1408
Phone: (406) 444-3604 Fax: (406) 444-4722 TTY: (406) 444-7099
website: www.mbcc@mt.gov



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News Release

**Montana Board of Crime Control
State of Montana**

FOR RELEASE: July 8, 2007

CONTACT: Sheryl Burright, 444-3651

**MONTANA BOARD OF CRIME CONTROL AWARDS HALF A
MILLION DOLLARS IN GRANTS FOR JUVENILE PREVENTION,
INTERVENTION, AND DIVERSION PROGRAMS.**

HELENA –The Montana Board of Crime Control awarded half a million dollars in Formula Grant Title II monies to twelve Montana programs for the development of effective education, training, research, prevention, diversion, treatment, and rehabilitation programs in the area of juvenile delinquency and programs to improve the juvenile justice system.

Retired Billings chief probation officer and member of the Governor appointed Youth Justice Council, Ted Lechner, stated, "These awards have allowed many Montana communities to develop grass root delinquency prevention programs that are tailored to their community's needs. Without these funds more youth would be needlessly institutionalized at a high cost to tax payers. Title II funds are a win-win situation."

Three programs, located in Great Falls, Missoula and Havre, received funding to initiate the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) program. This national model focuses on the appropriate use of secure detention in order to protect public safety.

Funding of truancy and other prevention programs was continued through the Anaconda School District, Anaconda PCA Family Resource Center's YouthQuest Program, the Helena Montana Youth Homes and the 10th Judicial District's Central Montana KIDS Project.

First time funding was awarded to Sidney's Youth Treatment Court, the Flathead Reservation/Lake CO Coalition for Kids Storytelling for Empowerment Program, the Great Falls Alliance for Youth Planning for the Future program, the Crow Tribe Collaborative Truancy Reduction program and the Chippewa Cree Neiyahw Family Project.

"In the past, very little funding has been specifically designated for prevention for youth in Montana, especially within the Justice system. Title II funding has a huge impact, on the youth in our state and on the seven Indian reservations, in keeping youth from progressing further into delinquency and the court system. If youth can get the help they need at an early juncture in their lives, the better chance they have of working towards living responsible lives in our communities," stated Rick Robinson, Director of The Healing Tree, Inc in Lame Deer and a member of the Governor's appointed Youth Justice Advisory Council.

Penny Kipp, Higher Education Scholarship Officer for the Confederation of Salish and Kootenai Tribes and member of the Governor's appointed Youth Justice Advisory Council stated, "It is always a good feeling to be in the forefront looking for positive, sustainable projects that give back to Montana's communities. It was especially exciting to see the creativity of the grant writers in molding projects to fit their grass root needs fueling the future generation of Montanans with the tools they need to succeed."